BLACK BEAR

HARVEST STATISTICS

1987

New Brunswick

GERALD REDMOND

FISH & WILDLIFE BRANCH

DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

BOX 6000, FREDERICTON, N.B.

E3B 5H1

I N T R O D U C T I O N

Interest in black bear hunting continues to grow in New Brunswick, with over 5,000 licences sold in 1987. The number of bears registered (976) increased 20 percent from 1986. Non-residents continue to be the primary harvester of bears; 83 percent of all bears registered were reported killed by non-residents. Success rates for non-residents averaged 23 percent and residents had approximately 8 percent success. Over 800 of all bears registered were killed during the spring season.

1987 bear hunting seasons were:

Season	Dates	Length	Bag Limit
SPRING			
Rifle	18 April - 27 June	10 wks.	2
FALL			
Archery	14 - 26 September	2 wks.	2
Rifle	1 Oct. - 28 Nov.	8 wks.*	2

*Licence is only valid for 6 consecutive days from 1 October to the end of deer season in each Deer Management Area.

Fees for bear licences in 1987 were:

Resident (18-64 years old)	$ 10.00
Resident Seniors	$ 5.00
Non-Residents	$ 25.00

Heavy harvesting pressure on bear populations in some areas of the Province appears to be a major factor for the observed declining age structure. The Department of Natural Resources is considering reducing the bag-limit from 2 to 1 bear throughout New Brunswick. Because of their low reproductive potential, bears are extremely susceptible to over-harvest. Careful monitoring of populations will continue through our mandatory registration program.

Thanks are extended to all Department of Natural Resources personnel and professional outfitters who contributed to the collection of biological data during 1987.

A summary of bear harvest statistics compiled from registration data is presented in the following pages.

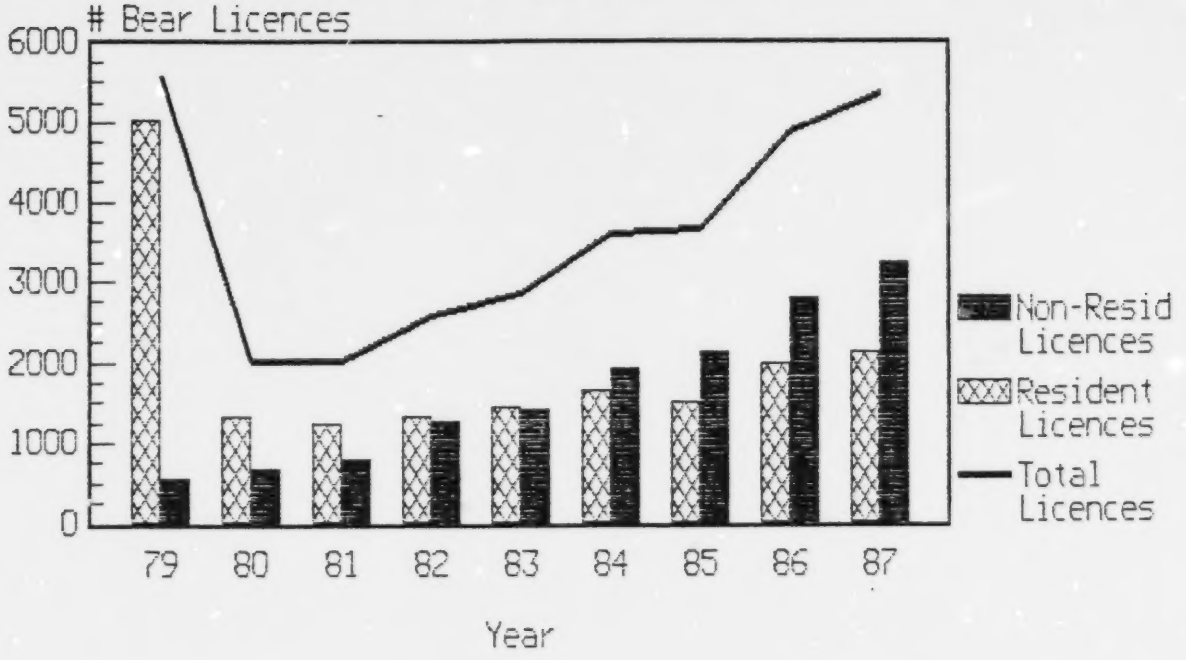
BLACK BEAR HARVEST STATISTICS
(NEW BRUNSWICK)

	Licences			Harvest			
Year	Resident	Non-Resident	Total	Resident	Non-Resident	Unknown/Other	Total
1971	2,357	1,172	3,529	Unknown	Unknown		Unknown
1972	4,827	1,016	5,843	Unknown	Unknown		Unknown
1973	6,156	1,152	7,308	449	161		610
1974	7,783	956	8,739	Unknown	118		Unknown
1975	9,729	871	10,600	Unknown	Unknown		Unknown
1976	11,780	775	12,555	444	190		634
1977	5,459	730	6,189	Unknown	Unknown		Unknown
1978	3,535	470	4,005	Unknown	Unknown		Unknown
1979	5,032	547	5,579	587	190		777
1980	1,326	685	2,011	365	316		681
1981	1,233	790	2,023	180	172		352
1982	1,314	1,282	2,596	330	325		655
1983	1,438	1,420	2,858	352	449		801
1984*	1,649	1,935	3,584	Unknown	Unknown		873
1985	1,519	2,124	3,643	133	498	87	718
1986	1,996	2,781	4,886	173	598	38	809
1987	2,130	3,235	5,365	154	770	52	976

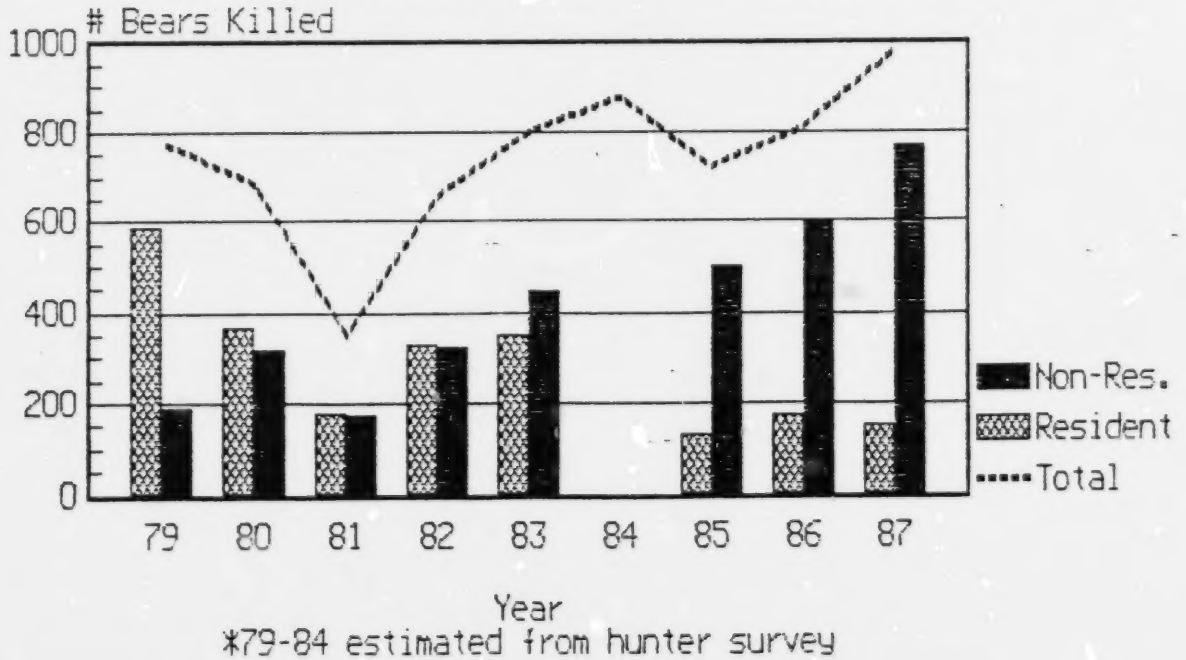
*Mandatory registration began in fall, 1984.

BEAR LICENCES SOLD
1979 - 1987, New Brunswick

(Resident, Non-Resident, Total)

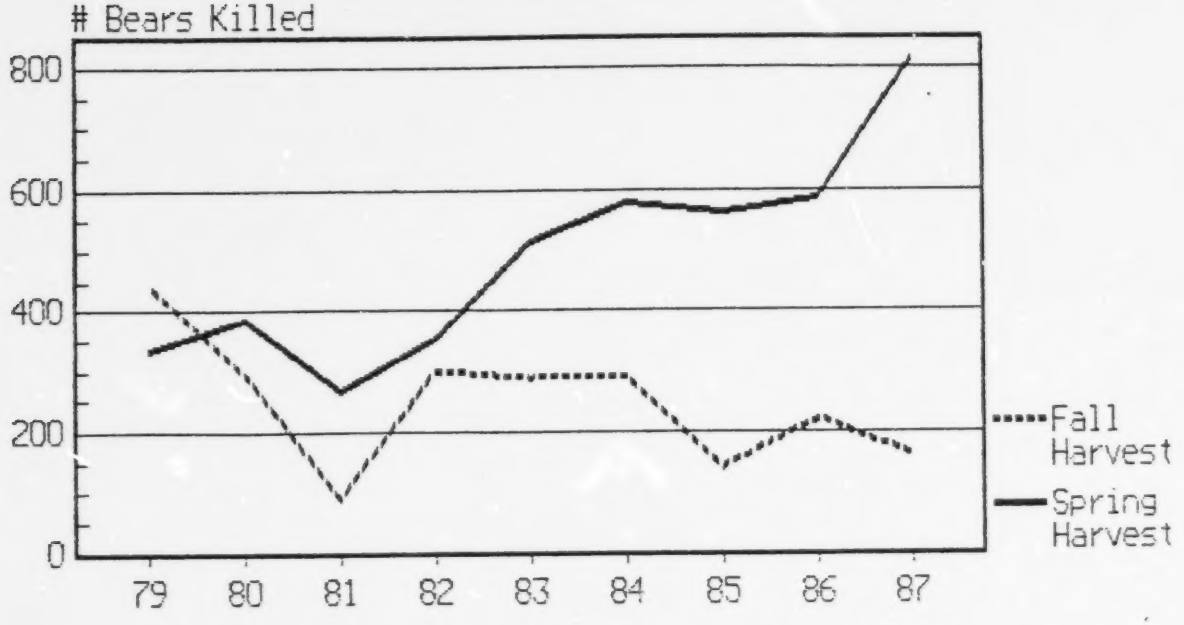


BEAR KILL
1979 - 87, New Brunswick
(Resident, Non-Resident, Total)
unknown res./non-res. kill for 1984



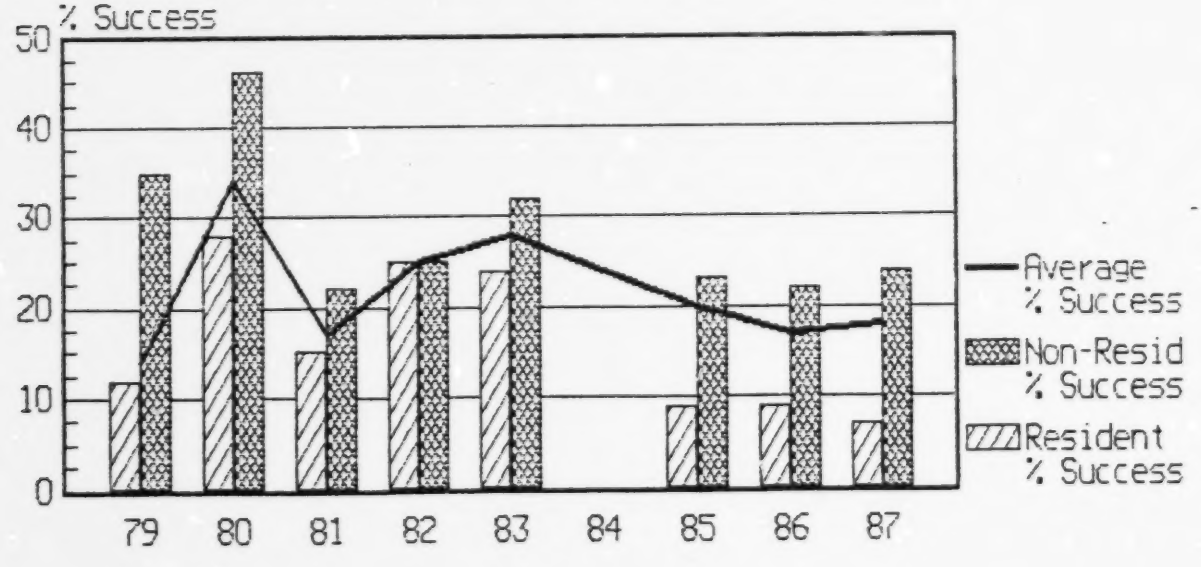
*79-84 estimated from hunter survey

SPRING AND FALL BLACK BEAR HARVESTS
1979 - 87, New Brunswick



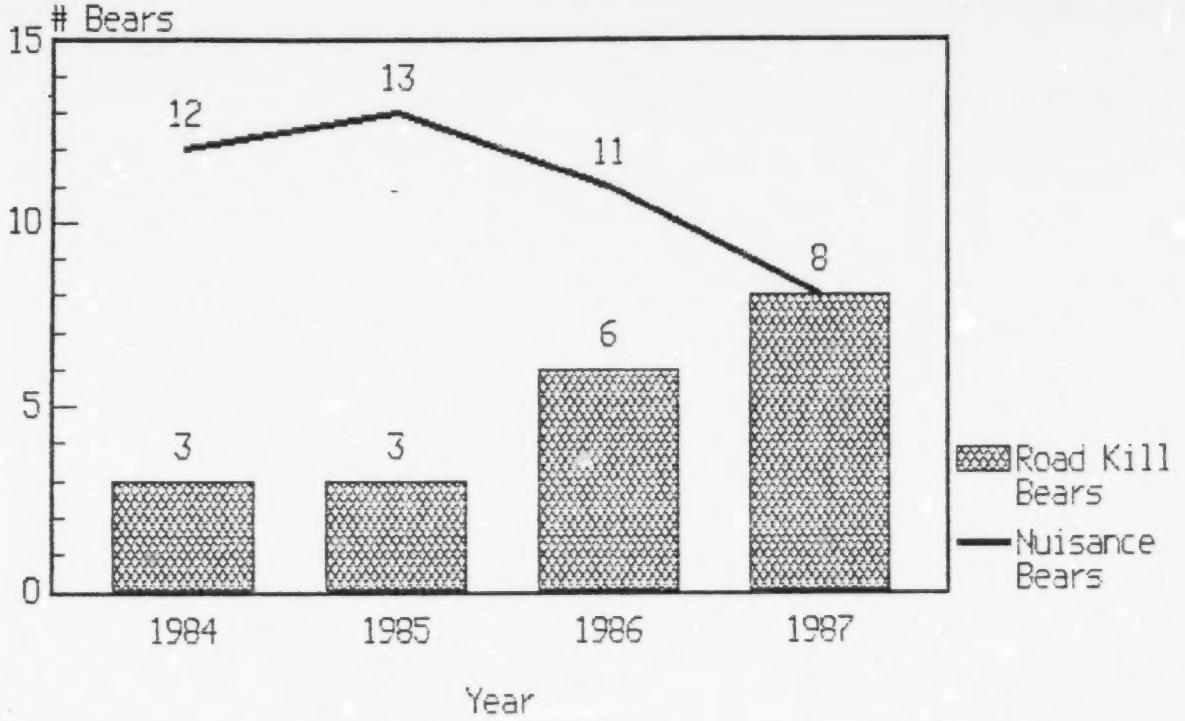
Year
*79-84 estimated from hunter survey

BEAR HUNTER SUCCESS
1979 - 1987, New Brunswick
(Residents and Non-Residents)
*unknown res./non-res. kill for 1984

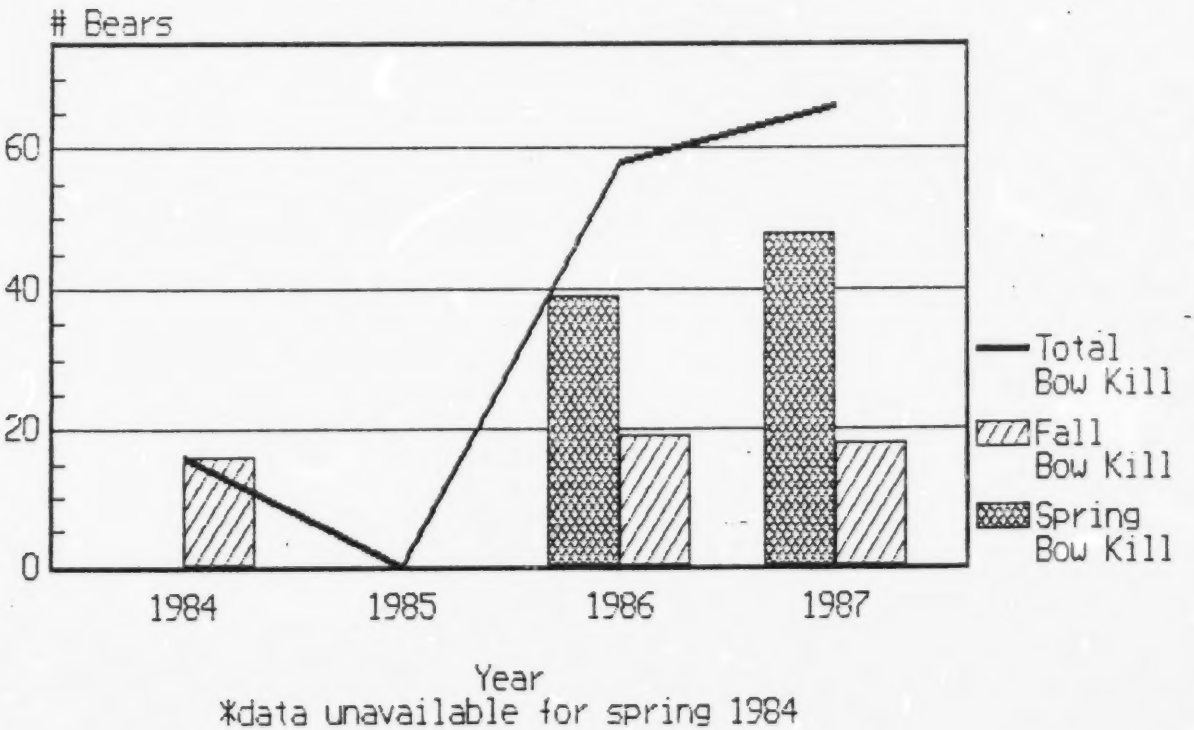


Year
*79-84 kill estimated from hunter survey

REPORTED NUISANCE AND ROAD KILLED BEARS
1984 - 87, New Brunswick



BEAR BOW KILL
1984 - 87, New Brunswick



*data unavailable for spring 1984

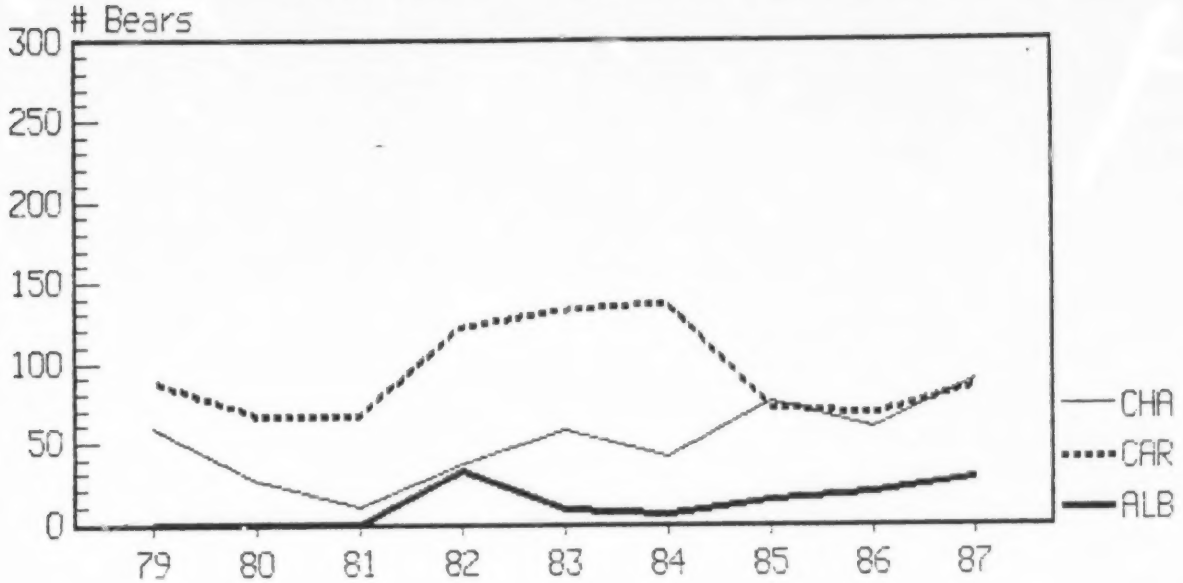
COUNTIES OF NEW BRUNSWICK

BLACK BEAR HARVEST BY COUNTY
1979 - 1987
NEW BRUNSWICK

County	1979*	1980*	1981*	1982*	1983*	1984*	1985	1986	1987
Albert	0	0	0	32	8	5	14	19	27
Carleton	88	66	67	121	132	137	71	67	84
Charlotte	59	26	9	37	57	41	75	59	89
Gloucester	35	26	29	4	23	30	19	27	26
Kent	14	41	24	26	12	23	15	15	26
Kings	14	31	9	38	35	23	21	28	43
Madawaska	79	10	18	12	51	48	33	36	25
Northumberland	32	43	2	40	41	49	116	76	83
Queens	24	15	3	23	29	4	20	20	26
Restigouche	147	97	61	51	43	52	37	109	64
St. John	18	0	0	0	0	2	1	7	3
Sunbury	63	13	11	8	24	30	40	23	55
Victoria	106	185	61	227	137	171	72	112	105
Westmorland	28	5	6	4	8	4	5	9	25
York	47	75	36	32	185	126	158	189	294
Unknown	23	48	16	0	24	128	21	13	1
TOTALS	777	681	352	655	801	873	718	809	976

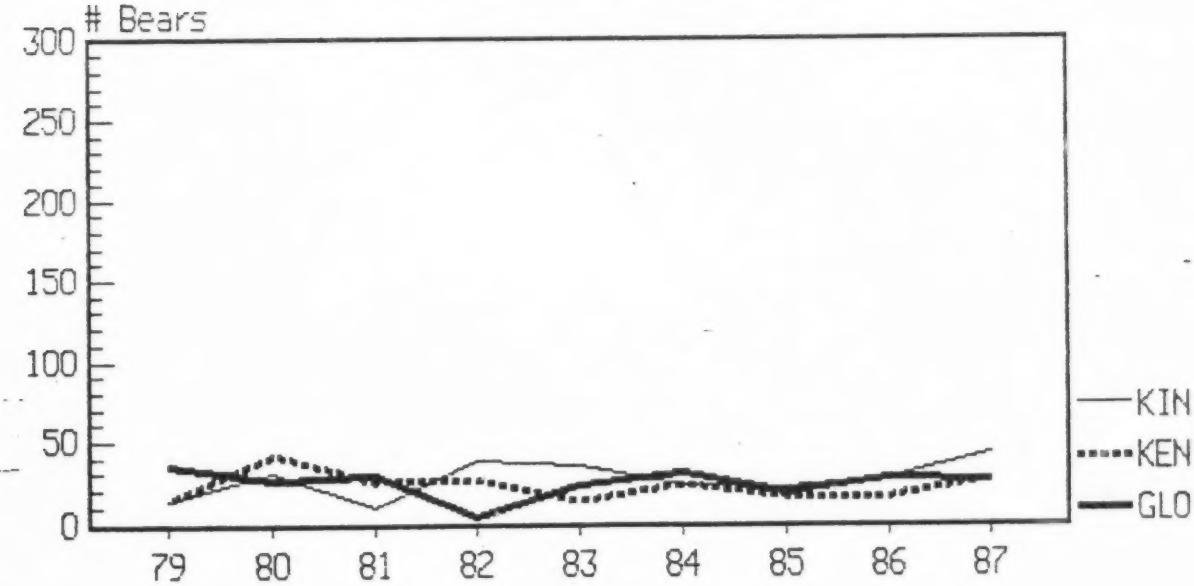
*Estimated from hunter questionnaire.

BLACK BEAR KILL 1979 - 87
N.B.
Albert, Carleton, Charlotte Counties



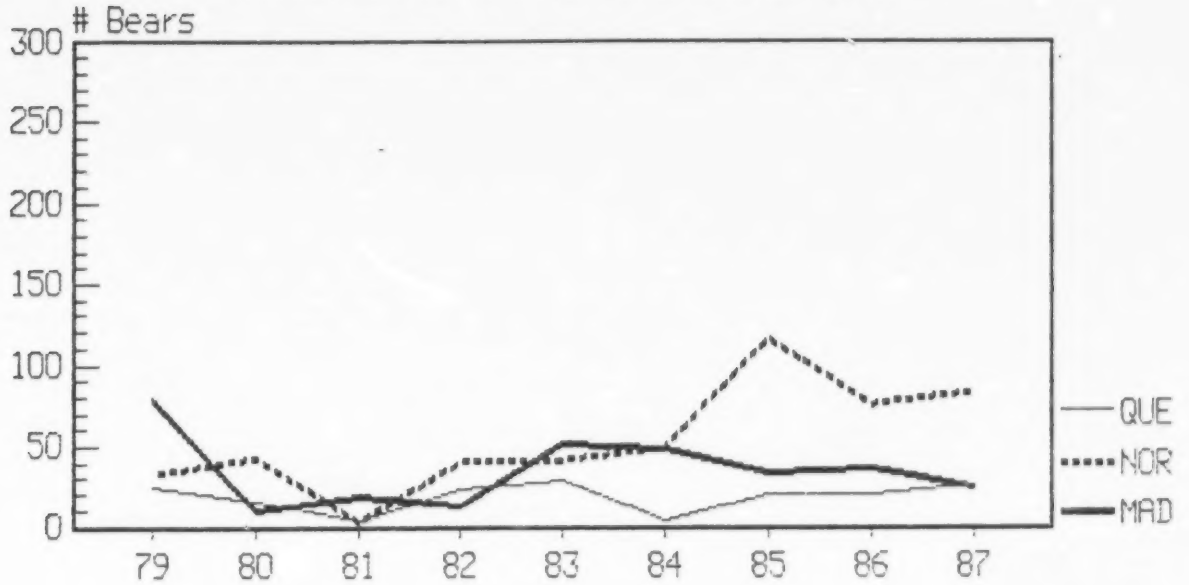
Year
*79-84 data estimated from hunter survey

BLACK BEAR KILL 1979 - 87
N.B.
Gloucester, Kent, Kings Counties



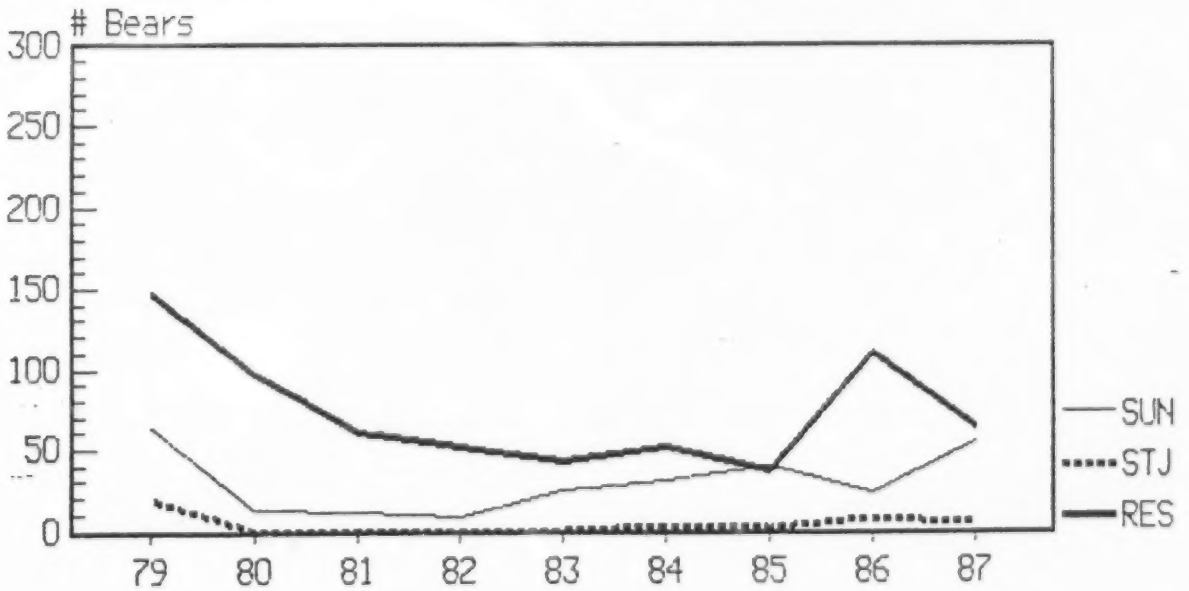
Year
*79-84 data estimated from hunter survey

BLACK BEAR KILL 1979 - 87
N.B.
Madawaska, Northumberland, Queens Co.s



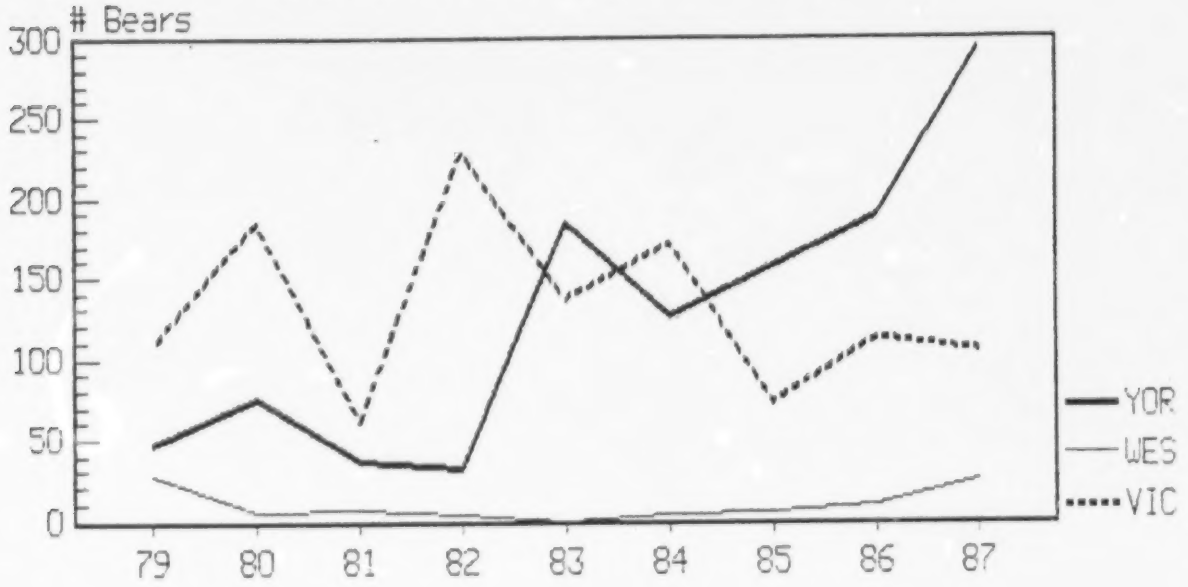
Year
*79-84 data estimated from hunter survey

BLACK BEAR KILL 1979 - 87
N.B.
Restigouche, St. John, Sunbury Counties



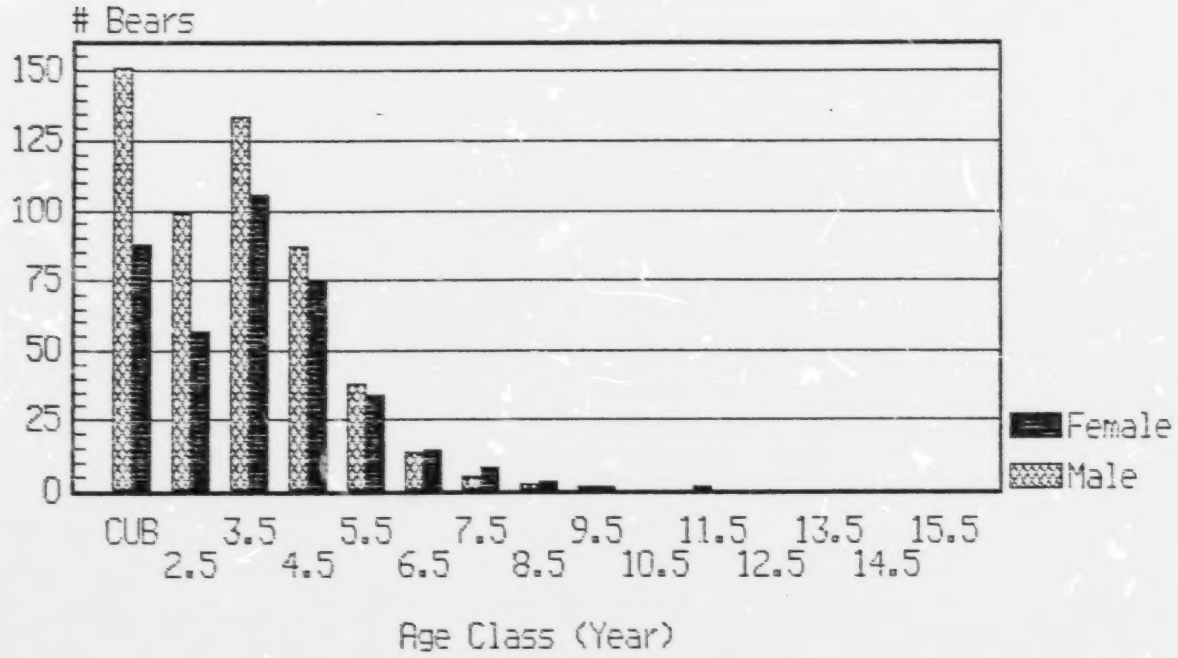
Year
*79-84 data estimated from hunter survey

BLACK BEAR KILL 1979 - 87
N.B.
Victoria, Westmorland, York Counties

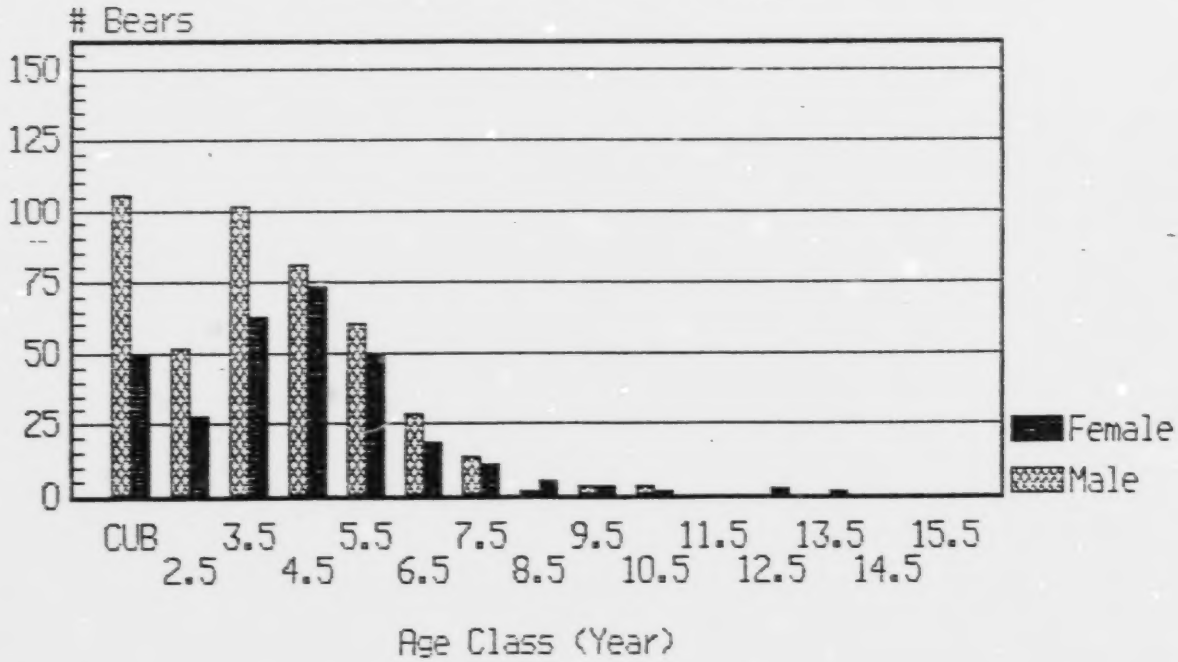


Year
*79-84 data estimated from hunter survey

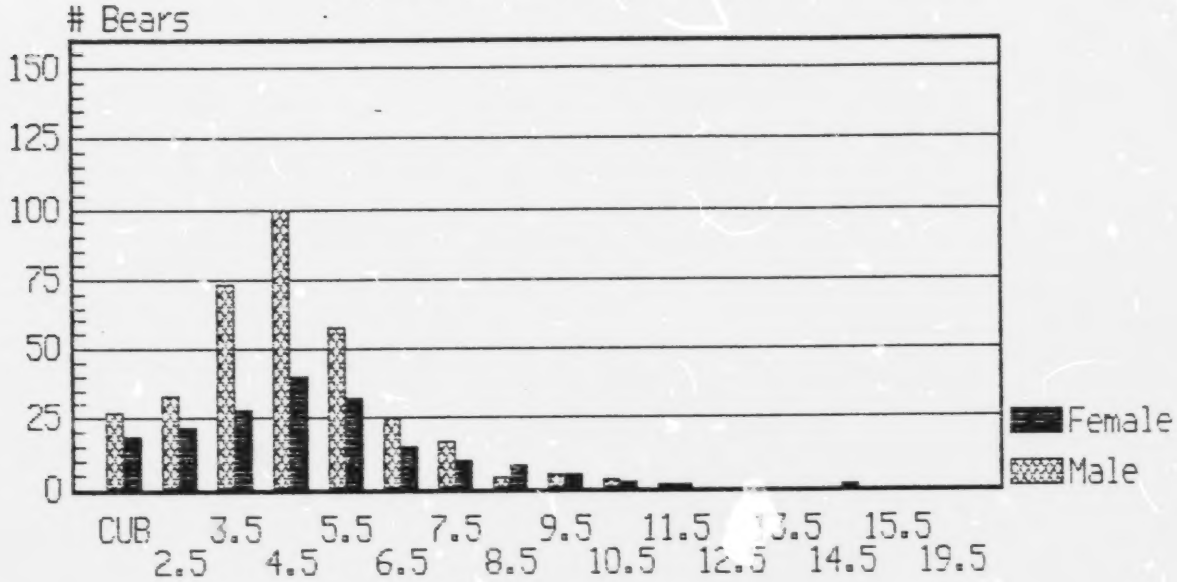
1987 BLACK BEAR
Age and Sex Summary
N.B.
(Spring and Fall Harvest)



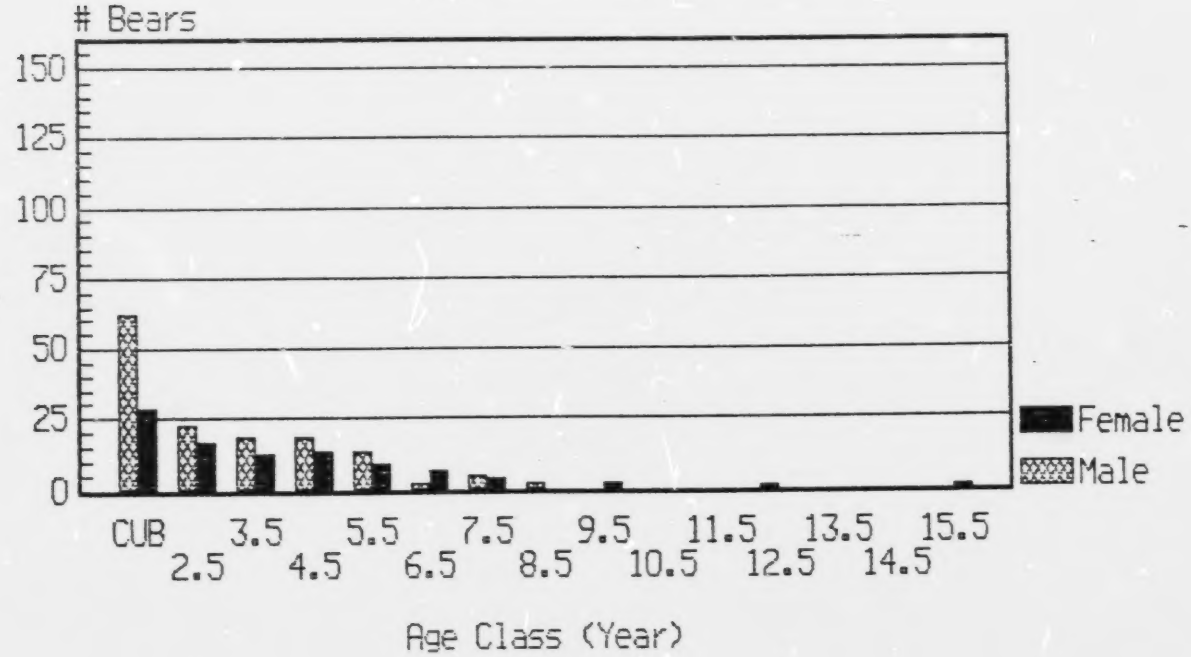
1986 BLACK BEAR
Age and Sex Summary
N.B.
(Spring and Fall Harvest)



1985 BLACK BEAR
Age and Sex Summary
N.B.
(Spring and Fall Harvest)



1984 BLACK BEAR
Age and Sex Summary
N.B.
(Fall Harvest ONLY)



AVERAGE AGE OF BEARS REGISTERED
1984 - 87, New Brunswick
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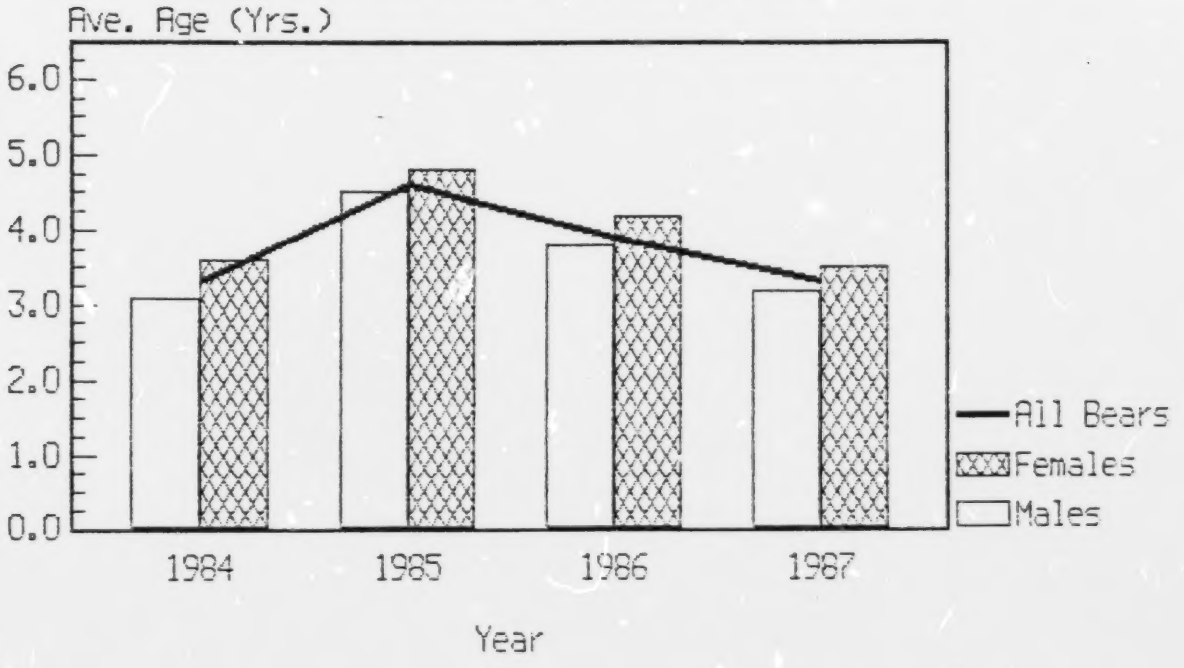
(Note: 1984 data from Fall harvest only)



SEX RATIOS OF ALL BEARS REGISTERED
1984 - 87, New Brunswick
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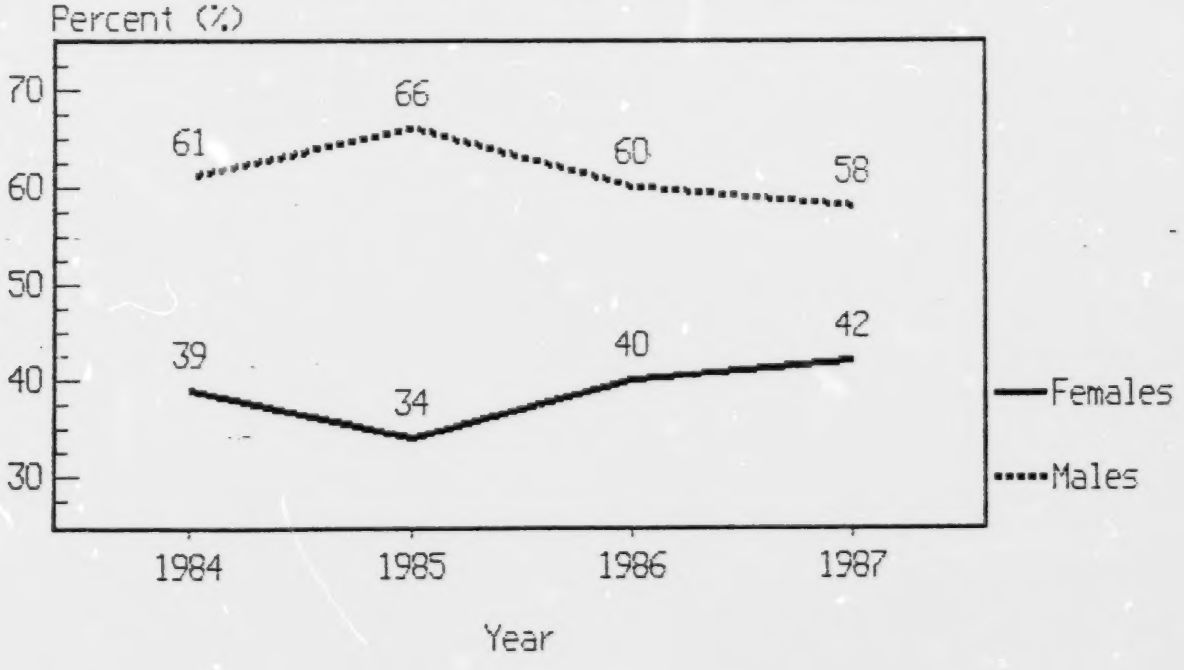
(Note: 1984 data from Fall harvest only)



SEX RATIOS OF ADULTS [> 3.5 Yrs.]
1984 - 87, New Brunswick
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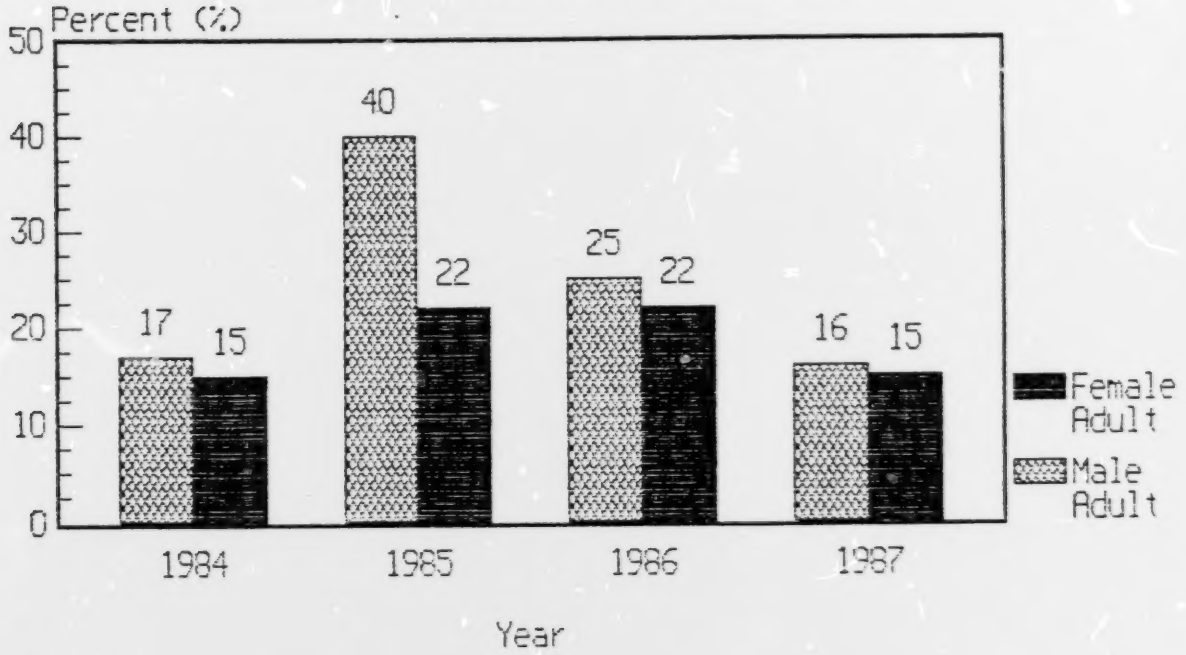
(Note: 1984 data from Fall harvest only)



SEX RATIOS OF SUBADULTS [2.5-3.5 Yrs.]
1984 - 87, New Brunswick
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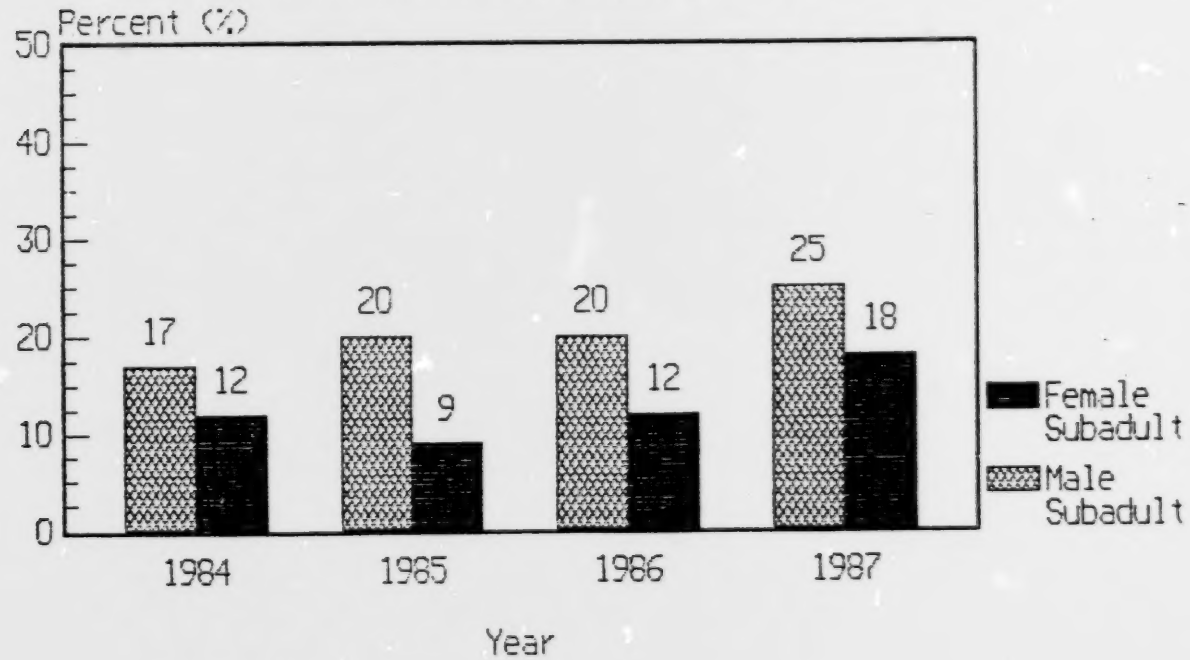
(Note: 1984 data from Fall harvest only)



SEX RATIOS OF CUBS [0.5 - 1.5 Yrs.]
1984 - 87, New Brunswick
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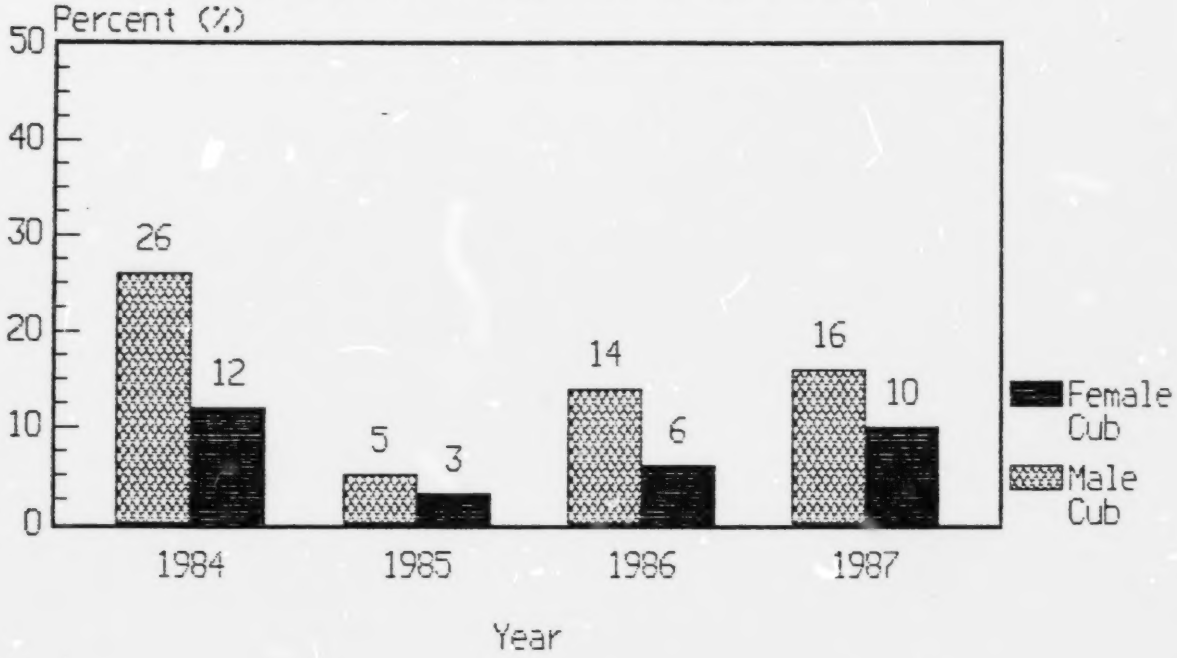
(Note: 1984 data from Fall harvest only)



BLACK BEAR HARVESTS FOR PARISHES IN NEW BRUNSWICK

1987

County	Parish	N
Albert	Alma	1
	Coverdale	5
	Elgin	7
	Harvey	8
	Hillsborough	5
	(Unknown)	1
	Total	27
Carleton	Aberdeen	4
	Brighton	26
	Kent	7
	Kirkland	3
	Northampton	1
	Richmond	15
	Wakefield	1
	Wicklow	1
	Wilmot	17
	Woodstock	3
	(Unknown)	6
	Total	84
Charlotte	Clarendon	6
	Dumbarton	10
	Lepreau	6
	Pennfield	12
	St. Croix	2
	St. David	4
	St. George	20
	St. James	26
	St. Patrick	3
	Total	89
Gloucester	Allardville	3
	Bathurst	15
	Beresford	7
	Paquetville	1
	Total	26
Kent	Acadieville	5
	Dundas	3
	Harcourt	1
	Richibucto	1
	St. Mary	3
	St. Paul	2
	Weldford	8
	Wellington	2
	(Unknown)	1
	Total	26
Kings	Canaan	1
	Cardwell	2
	Greenwich	22
	Hampton	2
	Kars	4
	Studholm	1
	Sussex	2
	Upham	2
	Waterford	4
	Westfield	3
	Total	43
Madawaska	Baker Brook	3
	R. Verte	1
	St. Basile	1
	St. Francois	12
	St. Hilaire	1
	St. Jacques	1
	St. Joseph	1
	St. Leonard	5
	Total	25
Northumberland	Alnwick	3
	Blackville	29
	Blissfield	1
	Hardwicke	3
	Ludlow	14
	Nelson	2
	Newcastle	1
	Northesk	12
	Rogersville	4
	Southesk	14
	Total	83
Queens	Brunswick	8
	Cambridge	1
	Chipman	1
	Gagetown	4
	Hampstead	2
	Johnston	2
	Petersville	7
	Wickham	1
	Total	26

County	Parish	N
Restigouche	Addington	1
	Balmoral	21
	Durham	1
	Eldon	4
	Grimmer	2
	St. Quentin	35
	Total	64
Saint John	Musquash	1
	St. Martins	2
	Total	3
Sunbury	Blissville	24
	Burton	3
	Gladstone	16
	Maugerville	7
	Sheffield	5
	Total	55
Victoria	Drummond	11
	Gordon	22
	Lorne	68
	Perth	3
	(Unknown)	1
	Total	105
Westmorland	Botsford	2
	Dorchester	1
	Havelock	1
	Moncton	7
	Sackville	1
	Salisbury	11
	Shediac	1
	(Unknown)	1
	Total	25
York	Bright	4
	Canterbury	35
	Douglas	30
	Dumfries	1
	Kingsclear	33
	Manners-Sut.	18
	McAdam	51
	New Maryland	5
	North Lake	16
	Pr. William	4
	Queensbury	1
	Southampton	23
	St. Mary's	3
	Stanley	30
	(Unknown)	40
	Total	294
Unknown	Unknown	1

HISTORY OF BLACK BEAR HARVESTS IN NEW BRUNSWICK
1936 - 1987

Year	
1936 - 1960	- Approximately 1,200 bears bountied annually.
1961 - 1968	- Annual harvest of 1,100 - 1,300 bears.
	- Bears now classed as game animal.
	- Both trapping and hunting allowed.
1969	- Trapping prohibited. Harvest estimated at 1,000.
1971	- Separate bear licence and bag limit established.
	- Harvest unknown.
1972	- Harvest unknown.
1973	- 610 (estimated from questionnaire).
1974 - 1975	- Unknown.
1976	- 634 (estimated from questionnaire).
1977 - 1978	- Unknown.
1979	- 777 (estimated from questionnaire).
1980	- 681 (estimated from questionnaire).
1981	- 352 (estimated from questionnaire).
1982	- 655 (estimated from questionnaire).
1983	- 801 (estimated from questionnaire).
1984	- 873 (mandatory registration began fall of 1984).
1985	- 718.
1986	- 820.
1987	- 976.